

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

21. An adjustable, removable shelving system for separating items stored in a cooler from ice or water in the cooler, the shelving system comprising:

(a) at least one generally flat, rectangular-shaped, one-piece, stackable, generally horizontally oriented shelf;

(b) a plurality of generally circular, spaced-apart apertures in the shelf;

(c) a plurality of evenly spaced, same-sized stationary legs projecting downwardly in a generally vertical direction from the lower surface of the generally horizontally oriented shelf; and

(d) a plurality of same-sized, reversible leg extensions, each comprising a projection on one end of the leg extension, the projection extending in the same direction as the remainder of the leg extension, the projection having a diameter smaller than the diameter of the remainder of the leg extension; at least one of the apertures having a diameter sufficient to closely accommodate the projection; each of the leg extensions further comprising a bore in an opposite end, the bore of each of the leg extensions having a diameter of a size for closely accommodating one of the stationary legs;

wherein the projection of the leg extension is closely insertable in one of the apertures of the shelf, and a portion of the stationary leg is closely insertable in the bore of a leg extension.

22. A shelving system according to Claim 21, further comprising at least one generally flat, flexible handle positionable across a portion of an upper surface of the shelf, the handle having two opposite, like ends, each handle end being closely and detachably insertable in at least one of the shelf apertures.

23. A shelving system according to Claim 22, wherein the apertures are generally all the same size and evenly spaced.

24. A shelving system according to Claim 22, wherein each handle end is pronged and flexible, the prongs of a handle end being closely insertable in at least one of the apertures, the handle being removable.

25. A shelving system according to Claim 23, wherein the stationary legs are affixed to or molded into the shelf.

26. A shelving system according to Claim 25, wherein the projections of a set of leg extensions are inserted into the bores of a corresponding number of the stationary legs of the shelf.

27. A shelving system according to Claim 23, wherein each handle end comprises a nipple, the nipples being closely insertable in two corresponding ones of the apertures, the handle being removable.

28. A shelving system according to Claim 22, wherein the shelf is not ribbed or made of connecting parts.

29. A shelving system according to Claim 22, wherein the projection of the leg extension is insertable from the top of the shelf into an aperture in the shelf, the aperture leading to an upper end of the stationary leg beneath the shelf, wherein each leg extension projects in the same generally vertical direction as the leg.

30. A shelving system according to Claim 29, wherein there are at least two of the shelves, an upper one of the shelves being above and parallel to a lower one of the shelves, the upper shelf having a length which is about half the length of the lower shelf, the width of both shelves being about equal to one another.

31. A shelving system according to Claim 22, wherein there are at least two of the shelves, a plurality of the leg extensions, and at least one of the handles; an upper one of the shelves being above and parallel to a lower one of the shelves; the lower shelf comprising a plurality of the stationary legs; the upper shelf not comprising any stationary legs.

32. A shelving system according to Claim 22, wherein two of the shelves each comprise at least four stationary legs, an upper one of the shelves being above, parallel to, and substantially the same size as a lower one of the shelves; at least four of the stationary legs of an upper one of the shelves being inserted in one each of the channels of a first set of the leg extensions.

33. A shelving system according to Claim 29, the projections of the first leg extensions being inserted into corresponding apertures of the lower shelf.

34. A shelving system according to Claim 29, the projections of the first leg extensions being inserted into channels in a second set of leg extensions, the projections of the second set of leg extensions being inserted into corresponding apertures in the lower shelf.

35. A shelving system according to Claim 29, wherein at least four of the stationary legs of the lower shelf are inserted into one each of the channels of a second set of the leg extensions.

36. A shelving system according to Claim 34, wherein the projections of a third set of leg extensions are inserted into the bores of a corresponding number of the stationary legs of the lower shelf.

37. A kit for building a shelving system for use in a cooler, the kit comprising:

(a) at least two generally flat, rectangular-shaped, one-piece, stackable shelves, each shelf comprising: a plurality of evenly spaced, same-sized stationary legs projecting downward in a generally vertical direction from the horizontally oriented shelf, each stationary leg comprising a central bore; and a plurality of spaced-apart apertures in the shelf;

(b) at least one generally flat, flexible, removable handle, each handle extending across a portion of an upper surface of one of the shelves, each handle having two opposite ends, each handle end being detachably insertable in a shelf aperture, the approximate center of the handle crossing a centerpoint of the shelf; and

(c) a plurality of reversible leg extensions, each leg extension having two ends, one leg extension end comprising a channel, the opposite leg extension end comprising a projection, the projection being insertable into the bore of one of the stationary legs; the stationary leg being insertable into the channel of the leg extension.